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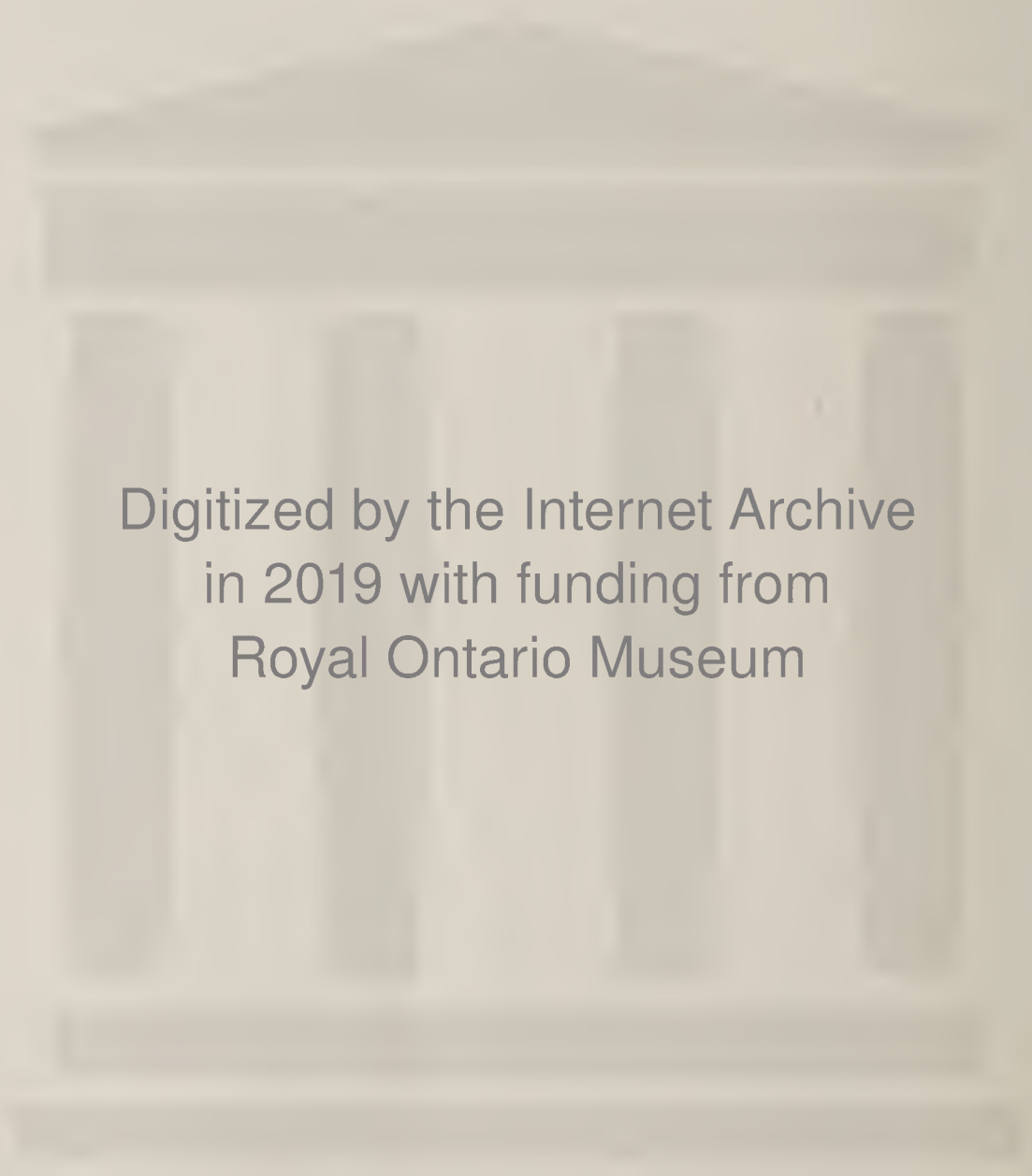
ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

ANNUAL REPORT

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Excerpt from the President's Report

Two years ago I prophesied in my Annual Report that a new and exciting chapter would be written in the splendid record of the Museum. The report of the Director, Mr. T. A. Heinrich, covering the activities of the past two years, proves that forecast to be correct. Extraordinary progress has been made in every phase of the work of the Museum, and Mr. Heinrich and his staff must indeed be congratulated on their achievements.

Scientific expeditions in Canada have been part of the Museum's work for many years. These have continued, and, in addition, the Museum has undertaken overseas expeditions which have shed light on the nature and culture of other lands. Fine acquisitions have been made to many of the collections, and improvements in the techniques of display have been noteworthy; an accelerated programme of special exhibitions has attracted wide public interest; increased activity on the part of the Museum's Division of Education is developing a larger group of youthful Museum "fans," both in Toronto and in remote parts of Ontario; and the publication of several scholarly works has brought prestige to the Museum and, indeed, to the whole University.

Much academic research does not lend itself to visual demonstration. The work that goes on year after year at the University of Toronto to establish cures for diseases, to discover physical and chemical laws, to elucidate great literature, to determine historical questions, to understand individual and social behaviour, etc., etc., must depend for the most part upon the university classroom and the scholarly journal for its description. But much research can be illustrated, by the intelligent and imaginative displaying of flora and fauna and artifacts. In this respect, the Museum is like a great show window, through which one may observe a workshop of painstaking scholarship and research in the arts and sciences.

SIDNEY SMITH

Report of the Director

The second year of the Royal Ontario Museum's operations under the re-organization plan, which created a unified institution out of the three formerly separate museums and the division of education, began to give real shape to the plans and hopes of the Board and the staff, the former under the chairmanship of Mr. Harold Turner and the latter under the direction of Mr. Theodore Allen Heinrich.

As with any structure undergoing remodelling, not all the changes and improvements are immediately apparent to the public eye. A major budgetary overhaul, for example, now only at the end of the first stage of an escalator scheme, will prove to be of far-reaching consequence: it is allowing some addition to the staff who have been heavily overworked, and is giving staff members increased mobility; it makes

possible a marked enlargement of museum services, notably in the areas of temporary exhibitions, publications and other special activities; it is helping towards the reinstallation of overcrowded or outdated galleries; it is facilitating the purchase of necessary equipment for research and conservation; it has allowed a beginning to be made towards elimination of overlapping or ill-defined duties; it provides the means to strengthen departmental libraries; and it has made a start, through a special grant of \$100,000 from the Province, towards putting the Royal Ontario Museum in a competitive position with endowed institutions for the acquisition of objects to improve its collections.

With the aid of corporate grants the Museum has been able for the first time in Canadian history to undertake overseas expeditions. In 1956 the Museum became a partner in the excavations of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem at the ancient site of Jericho, where discoveries of unusual significance were made. During this period Dr. A. D. Tushingham and Miss Winifred Needler were also able to visit other sites in the Near East and Egypt. The syndicated coverage of this expedition by the *Globe and Mail*, which underwrote the principal expenses and sent out an excellent reporter, Mr. David Spurgeon, gave the general public both a vivid account of the operations and a new appreciation of the Museum's capabilities. In addition Dr. Tushingham's intimate newsletters for the Museum's members and staff gave them a real sense of participation. In 1957, with the aid of Carling's Ltd., Dr. F. A. Urquhart led a sizable Museum expedition to the tropical rain forests of Trinidad to collect specimens for the projected Reptile Gallery, while Mr. Kidd made preliminary investigations in British Honduras for a projected pre-Columbian excavation in that country. At the same time all divisions were continuing field work in Canada. In one area at least, at the Serpent Mound site on Rice Lake, a long-term project for which local support was raised in Peterborough was successfully undertaken. Eight members of the staff have attended conferences or courses in Europe, three attended a congress in Mexico, and the Museum has been well represented at scientific and professional meetings in the United States and Canada. The Director, in addition to representing the Museum at many such meetings, was Canadian delegate to the triennial meeting of the International Council of Museums in Switzerland.

Although funds for physical expansion of the badly overcrowded main building are not yet in sight, considerable study of needs has been made and tentative plans discussed. These are now ready for consultation with the advisory architect recently appointed by the Board of Governors with a view to determining probable costs. In the meantime work is well forward on the new wing for the Canadiana Gallery and on reinstallations of certain galleries and storage areas in the main building. The second stage of the complete reinstallation of the Geology galleries on a new system was carried through under the direction of Dr. Walter Tovell by the designer, Mr. John Hillen. This section was opened with suitable ceremonies by the Minister of Mines for Ontario, the Honourable Philip Kelly, on February 15, 1957, and the dramatic results of a labour consuming several years have attracted worldwide attention. Over half the cost was borne by the J. P. Bickell Foundation. The Division of Zoology and Palaeontology has completed a new installation devoted to fossil fishes. The Division of Art and Archaeology has opened a new Peruvian Gallery, has set up a new temporary exhibition area which has proved to be satisfactorily flexible, is well forward with the construction of a lacquer court and a new Athenian Gallery, has rearranged the East Indian and parts of the Japanese and Eskimo collections, and has planned many other improvements in its installations. The former waste space of the Lower Rotunda has been transformed into an attractive and popular gallery for photographic exhibitions, and improvements have been made in the coffee shop, sales desk and ladies' staff room.

The tempo of special exhibitions has been sharply increased and strenuous efforts are being made to raise their level of quality and interest to a high international standard. They have induced a marked growth in attendance, have achieved wide publicity, in some cases have made real contributions to scholarship, have brought about a gratifying improvement in co-operation between divisions and departments, and have given stimulus to local collectors, without whose interest no museum can function to full effect. It is regrettable that it has seldom been possible to publish catalogues which would provide a permanent record of evanescent but often important events.

Among these exhibitions the most unusual and spectacular was devoted to the magnificent Japanese costumes from the Nomura Collection of Tokyo, shown uniquely in the Western world at Toronto under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Japanese Ambassador. The range of subject interest has been very wide. The Division of Art and Archaeology, most active in this field, has staged no less than eighteen special shows in the two-year period in addition to six exhibitions in the Canadiana Gallery and smaller departmental shows not featured as special events. Among other notable special exhibitions were those devoted to Chinese Paintings, Lacquer, Bone and Ivory, European Glass, and Part II of Dr. Alexander MacDonald's great collection of maps relating to the exploration of Canada, this section being entitled "Over the Rockies." In connection with a special Hungarian exhibition at the time of the tragic revolution in that country the Museum was able to raise \$1,000 for the scholarship fund for refugee Hungarian students: this was perhaps the only known instance when a museum deliberately set out to raise funds for other purposes than its own. The newly inaugurated photographic exhibitions likewise attracted much interest, particularly the late Werner Bischoff's unforgettable images of Japan, Eliot Elisofon's photographs of ancient Indian architecture to which were effectively added sculptures from the Museum collections, Kurt Ammann's "Small, Wide World" and Bernice Kolko's "Women of Mexico." Colour photographs made for *Reader's Digest* covers were also popular. The Division of Geology and Mineralogy devoted special exhibitions to Platinum Metals and Titanium before work on the new permanent installations forced suspension of these activities, and the Division of Zoology and Palaeontology likewise mounted a number of small special shows. Notable among these was the first museum exhibition accorded the remarkable bird paintings of the very young Victoria artist, Fenwick Lansdowne. The openings for certain of the major exhibitions have provided opportunities for special parties at which the entertainment, decorations and a popular bar are proving excellent stimulants towards enlarging the membership, particularly in the patronage and life categories. Counterparts of these for the general public have been continued in the form of Open Nights, some of which have drawn large crowds.

Despite chronic lack of funds important accessions were made to the permanent collections, largely through private gifts or bequests. Special mention may be made of a group of Chinese paintings of the Sung and Ming periods, a fifth-century Greek funerary stele, a Florentine fifteenth-century bust of St. John in terra cotta, a K'ang Hsi uncut state robe of imperial velvet, a group of Chinese imperial lacquers, a Chola Dynasty life-size Mahesvari in stone, a group of Italian Renaissance furniture, and collections of Irish and Early Canadian glass. The latter, which is unique, is the subject of a special publication. A list of the more important accessions and their donors is appended. These gifts, bequests and purchases have been supplemented by an important group of antiquities deposited on long-term loan by Mr. Joseph Hirshhorn and by the whole of Mr. James Houston's famous collection of contemporary Eskimo sculpture. The indefatigable enthusiasm and generosity of Dr. Sigmund Samuel have continued to enrich the Canadiana collections.

The Division of Education has enjoyed ever-expanding activity and its work at all levels in interpreting the collections to both the junior and the adult publics has been rewarded with constantly increased attendance. The two non-seminar extension courses of the season had to be repeated and each had to be given in larger quarters than previously. The Saturday children's programme was as usual over-subscribed. After the regrettable lapse of a year in the subvention formerly granted by the City towards the support of this popular activity, the Metropolitan Toronto budget has now begun to contribute. The travelling teachers visited nearly two hundred schools in remote parts of the province during the winter and the travelling cases brought small exhibits to forty-three other distant schools. Few of these children have ever seen a museum. The popular Sunday film programme was closely related to the exhibition schedule of the Museum and thereby added still another dimension to the Museum's services to the public. It is worthy of mention and a cause for congratulation to Miss Norma Heakes and her colleagues that when a vacancy occurred in the Division there were over sixty qualified applicants despite the longer hours and shorter vacations. It is also most gratifying that of the thousands of school children who have their first introduction to the Museum through class visits, considerable numbers return independently in order to concentrate on what has particularly struck their interest.

Numerous individual and joint research programmes are under way throughout the Museum. Three new books are causes of special gratification to the institution: Bishop White's *Bronze Culture of Ancient China*, L. L. Snyder's *Arctic Birds of Canada* with illustrations by T. M. Shortt, and the handsome, fully illustrated catalogue of the Museum's Exhibition of Chinese Paintings, which was prepared by Mr. Kojiro Tomita of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and most generously underwritten *in toto* by Mr. Frank Caro of New York. The Museum is also very pleased that Mr. W. M. Tovell has obtained the Doctorate of Philosophy for his thesis on "Aspects of the Geology of the Millic River and Pakowki Formations (Southern Alberta)." Dr. V. B. Meen has published the important results of his investigations of Chubb Crater in Quebec and Merewether Crater in northern Labrador. Dr. Urquhart's continuing studies of the systematics and migrations of the Monarch butterfly have attracted extraordinary publicity. Publication of the *Bulletin* of the Division of Art and Archaeology has been resumed after a lapse of more than a year and the other Divisions are continuing publications of special papers.

A new departure of considerable significance was the establishment of a central office for Publications and Information Services, which has completed its first year under the able supervision of Mr. Duncan Cameron. It has not been possible during this period to undertake all the functions foreseen for the office, but it has made great progress in at least two of them. The main problem has been to develop a co-ordinated programme of public relations for all divisions of the Museum, in a field where there is little specific precedent and where much study and experimentation are necessary. That a different kind of presentation to the public of the Museum's activities, needs and accomplishments was necessary was painfully obvious. Careful examinations of the problem, experimentation at once cautious and bold, and extended statistical studies and analyses of special aspects have all been productive of illuminating results. A concerted effort has been made to create an impression in the public mind of change, growth and vital activity in the Museum. As a part of this effort the Museum has been featured during the year on 53 television and 52 radio programmes and has had the equivalent of 24.4 news pages and 167 photographs in the Toronto papers alone. Partial returns show that news stories emanating from the Museum are not only being widely reprinted in Canada, but are attracting interest in the United States and Europe as well. It is safe to say that as a result of this cam-

paign Toronto and Ontario are aware of their Museum as never before. Sharp increases in attendance, an upsurge in gifts and the special purchase grant from the Province can all be in no inconsiderable part attributed to this co-ordinated policy, and it is sure to have a profound effect on a projected membership campaign.

A second project of this office, to co-ordinate and improve graphic design of Museum printing and publishing, has made a good start. A by-product of this project was the redesigning of Museum stationery and printed forms and the creation of a distinguished insignie for use on all publications, posters and certain stationery. This insignie is also travelling to far parts as a blazon on the divisional station-wagons, where its appearance has aroused much interest and favourable comment. The office also acted as principal liaison in making arrangements for the local celebration, in which five institutions collaborated, of the UNESCO-sponsored Museum Week.

The new Royal Ontario Museum Council, set up by the President to facilitate solution of problems arising from joint use of the Museum by faculty and museum staff and the somewhat differing requirements of the University and the public within the Museum, has discussed a variety of questions including cross-appointments, a more equitable distribution of the teaching load borne by curators, allocation of office and research space for faculty members, rearrangement of study collections, access to the collections by students and the disposition of the Chinese Library. The Council is proving itself a useful institution and is welcomed by the Museum staff.

The death of Dr. Charles Trick Currelly, Director Emeritus of the old Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology and the founding genius of that part of the Museum, was widely mourned. The Museum was his idea and he contributed more than fifty years of brilliant service to creating out of nothing the great monument he has left behind. Happily his informative and highly entertaining memoirs, *I Brought the Ages Home*, were published a few months before his death and he had the pleasure of knowing that they had been well received. The passing of Professor A. L. Parsons, Director Emeritus of the former Royal Ontario Museum of Mineralogy, was also deeply regretted by the staff. He had served in the Museum most of his active professional life and in collaboration with his colleague and predecessor in the post, the late Professor T. L. Walker, was responsible for building up the famous mineral collections and the mineral gallery. The Division of Art and Archaeology suffered the loss of two of its most senior and well-loved members. Mr. William Rae, who died in his ninetieth year, had given a quarter of a century of devoted service to the Museum after his retirement from the practice of architecture and was at his desk until a few hours before his death. Mr. Arthur Godfrey, "Dan" to all the staff, had been a technician in the Division for thirty years.

The Museum suffered another unanticipated and severe loss of another sort in mid-January when thieves successfully secreted themselves in the building and during the night managed to abstract most of the high-grade gold specimens and four cut diamonds from the Department of Mineralogy. The diamonds were subsequently recovered by the police, but the gold specimens, principally representing historic strikes and therefore irreplaceable, are still missing. Steps have been taken to prevent recurrence of such an episode. The reopened inquiry into the authenticity of the "Beardmore Relics" might likewise have produced adverse consequences for the Museum had it been undertaken elsewhere, but vigorous pursuit of this painful question by the Museum itself has underscored the integrity of the institution even in a matter involving an all but sacrosanct national legend.

Of the many distinguished visitors from other countries, it might be thought invidious to single out a few, but because of special contributions or assistance mention should perhaps be made of Their Excellencies M. Francis Lacoste, French Ambassador to Canada and Dr. Koto Matsudaira, Japanese Ambassador to Canada;

Mr. John Ward-Perkins, Director of the British School of Archaeology at Rome; Miss Pauline Simmons of the Metropolitan Museum; Miss Alice Boney of New York; Professor Cornelius Vermeule and Mr. Kojiro Tomita of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts; Mr. and Mrs. Shizuo Nomura of Tokyo and New York; Professor George Heard Hamilton of Yale University; Mr. Arthur Lane of the Victoria and Albert Museum, Mr. Peter Corbett of the British Museum and Mrs. Lillian Summerfield, Director of the Fine Arts Department of the British Council; Mr. Finn Juhl and Count Sigvard Bernadotte of Copenhagen; Dr. Junius Bird and Dr. James Ford of the American Museum of Natural History; Dr. Sherman Lee of the Cleveland Museum and Mr. Henry Trubner of the Los Angeles County Museum; Dr. I. Bendor of Harvard University; Mr. Eliot Elisofon of New York and Mr. Kurt Ammann of Berne.

PRINCIPAL ACCESSIONS

DIVISION OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Gifts

Greek funerary stele, Egyptian wooden figure, Florentine terracotta bust of St. John, Egyptian ibis, Greek bronze mirror, Chinese painting, Indian stone Mahesvari, from the Reuben Wells Leonard Fund
 Lacquers from the late Major James E. Hahn and from Mrs. Hahn
 Chinese ivory screen from Mrs. F. W. Cowan
 Irish glass from the late Chairman of the Museum Board, Mr. Robert Fennell
 K'ang Hsi uncut state robe of imperial velvet and other gifts from Mrs. Edgar Stone
 Italian Renaissance furniture from members of the Snively family
 Egyptian relief from Mr. and Mrs. Leon Pomerance
 A war shirt of Sitting Bull (documented) from Mr. A. A. Housely
 Early Ontario furniture from Mr. Robert Laidlaw
 Pictures, maps, medals, ship models, etc., from Dr. Sigmund Samuel
 Acropolis model from Mr. Walter C. Laidlaw
 Roman bronze figure and Egyptian relief from Dr. Elie Borowski
 Jericho material from Queen's University and from the Jordan Department of Antiquities
 Chinese painting from an anonymous donor
 Senufo Mask and eighteenth-century child's costume from the Museum Board Trust Fund
 Chinese export porcelain from the Winfield Foundation, N.Y.
 Padded appliqué quilt from Mrs. Ellen Emsley
 Costumes by name designers and accessories from many generous donors
 Collection of Japanese brush drawings by Taki Katei from Sir Adrian Boulton
 Carved Regency stool from Mrs. M. F. Martin
 Collection of Early Canadian glass from Dr. Lorne Pierce
 Japanese Zeshin lacquer from Mr. Edgar Stone
 "Walls of Jericho" kinescope from the B.B.C.

Purchases

Louis XV armchair; seventeenth-century Persian portrait; Neo-Sumerian statuette; Near Eastern bronzes and terracottas; quill-work from the Northwest Territories; casts of Parthenon friezes and metopes; Egyptian Kantir tiles; Chinese textiles; Turkish mediaeval helmet; Indonesian textiles; eighteenth-century console table; Chinese inlaid bronze belt hook and k'o-ssu; Chinese painting; Tarascan and Mayan terracottas; modern porcelain and glass; collection of books on rugs.

Purchases (from Capital Equipment Grant in Budget, 1956-7)

Station-wagon; new lighting for carpenter shop; fume cabinet for conservation shop; furniture and curtains for main office and Head's office; machinery for carpenter shop; photo-micrograph equipment.

Long-Term Loans

From Mr. Joseph Hirshhorn: Etruscan male divinity in bronze and horse bit, early dynastic Sumerian head of a lady in limestone, fragment of a gold pectoral from Zawiyeh, two Roman portrait heads in terracotta, first century B.C., Neo-Sumerian foundation figure in bronze, bronze goat, perhaps Sassanian; from Mr. James Houston, collection of contemporary Eskimo sculpture.

DIVISION OF GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY

Presentations

Group of argentite crystals and large massive stephanite from Cobalt, Ontario, by Silver Miller Mines Limited
Brucite from Asbestos, Quebec, by John Edwards
Calcite crystals and silver specimens from Cobalt, Ontario, by A. A. Cole
High-grade gold ore from Cadillac, Quebec, by O'Brien Gold Mines Limited
Limonite pseudomorphs after pyrite from MacKenzie Mountains, N.W.T., by D. Jacques
Thorite crystal from Cardiff Township, Ontario, and betafite crystals from Faraday Township, Ontario, by Ontario Department of Mines
Large massive native copper from Mamainse Point, Ontario, by Coppercorp, Limited
Cuprite with native copper from Mexico, by Dr. M. H. Froberg
Pitchblende, the first specimen taken from LaBine Point, Great Bear Lake, N.W.T., by Mrs. G. E. Steel
Calcite geode from Borderville, Utah, by Mrs. W. H. Bush
Betafite crystal from Faraday Township, Ontario, by T. Seward

Exchange

Hurlbutite crystal from Newport, New Hampshire; gonyerite from Langban, Sweden; navajoite from Arizona (with Harvard Mineralogical Museum)
Muscovite from Warren County, New York, and serendibite from Johnsburg, New York (with E. Rowley)
Wairakite from Wairakei, New Zealand (with A. Steiner, Geological Survey of New Zealand)
Xanthoxenite and rockbridgeite from North Groton, New Hampshire (with United States National Museum)
Safflorite from Quebec; braunite from South Africa; cerussite from Yukon Territories (with Dr. D. H. Gorman)
Struvite from Victoria, Australia (with National Museum of Victoria)

Permanent Loans

Large block of obsidian (approximately 1,000 lb.) from the National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park, U.S.A.
The Iron Creek, Alberta, siderite, the heaviest meteorite ever found in Canada, from Victoria College for display in the Gallery of Physical Geology

Purchases

Large crystallized autunite from Daybreak Uranium Mine, Washington, U.S.A.; large sapphire crystal from Portuguese East Africa; and many others.

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T. A. HEINRICH

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